

# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—Thursday, November 4, 1999

The House met at 10 a.m.

The Reverend Father Allen P. Novotny, S.J., President, Gonzaga College High School, Washington, D.C., offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, You made us to Your own image and set us over all creation. Once You chose a people and gave them a destiny and, when You brought them out of bondage to freedom, they carried with them the promise that all men and women would be blessed and all men and women could be free.

It happened to our forbearers, who came to this land as if out of the desert into a place of promise and hope. It happens to us still in our time, as You guide to perfection the work of creation by our labor.

May the women and men of this House bring this spirit to all their efforts to establishing true justice and guide our Nation to its destiny. May their work today and every day further this mission. Amen.

## THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. VITTER led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

## MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed without amendment a bill and a concurrent resolution of the House of the following titles:

H.R. 609. An act to amend the Export Apple and Pear Act to limit the applicability of the Act to apples.

H. Con. Res. 102. Concurrent resolution celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and recognizing the humanitarian safeguards these treaties provide in times of armed conflict.

The message also announced that the Senate had passed with amendments in which the concurrence of the House is requested, a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 434. An act to authorize a new trade and investment policy for sub-Saharan Africa.

The message also announced that the Senate insists upon its amendments to the bill (H.R. 434) "An Act to authorize a new trade and investment policy for sub-Saharan Africa," requests a conference with the House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and appoints Mr. ROTH, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. LOTT, Mr. HELMS, Mr. MOYNIHAN, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. BIDEN to be the conferees on the part of the Senate.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed bills of the following titles in which concurrence of the House is requested.

S. 185. An act to establish a Chief Agricultural Negotiator in the Office of the United States Trade Representative.

S. 580. An act to amend title IX of the Public Health Service Act to revise and extend the Agency for Healthcare Policy and Research.

S. 688. An act to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to reauthorize the Overseas Private Investment Corporation.

S. 1232. An act to provide for the correction of retirement coverage errors under chapters 83 and 84 of title 5, United States Code.

## MAKING IN ORDER AT ANY TIME MOTION TO AGREE TO CONFERENCE ASKED BY THE SENATE ON H.R. 3194, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2000

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that it may be in order at any time for the chairman of the Committee on Appropriations or his designee to move that the House take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 3194) making appropriations for the government of the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in

whole or in part against the revenues of said District for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes, with a Senate amendment, thereto, disagree to the Senate amendment and agree to the conference asked by the Senate.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

## MAKING IN ORDER AT ANY TIME CONSIDERATION OF H.J. RES. 75, FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS, FISCAL YEAR 2000

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that it may be in order at any time, without the intervention of any point of order, to consider in the House the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 75) making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2000, and for other purposes, that the joint resolution be debatable for 1 hour, equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations, and that the previous question otherwise be considered as ordered to passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

## ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. OSE). There will be 15 1-minutes on each side.

## IT IS TIME THE LIBERAL DEMOCRATS SUPPORT FLEXIBILITY FOR LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks).

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, there is a Latin phrase that applies to those liberal Democrats who constantly believe that Washington always knows best: *via ovicepitum dura est*. For the engineers, "The way of the egghead is hard."

Mr. Speaker, it is time our liberal colleagues support the education opportunities that grant our local school districts the flexibility to decide how to spend their Federal education funding.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.